

REMARKS

Claims 11-22 remain in this application. Claims 1-10 were previously canceled. Reconsideration of the application is requested.

Certain informalities in the specification and in claims 11, 21, and 22 are eliminated above.

The allowance of claims 11-14, 21, and 22 is acknowledged.

Claim 17 is rewritten in independent form and should now be allowable in view of the comments provided by the Examiner in section 7 on page 4 of the Office Action. Claim 18 depends on allowable claim 11 and should already be allowable together with claim 11. Claim 19 depends of claim 18 and should also be allowable.

The informality identified by the Examiner in section 2 on page 2 of the Office Action is eliminated above.

Independent claim 15 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), along with several dependent claims, as being unpatentable over German patent document DE 198 53 075 A1 to Feuchter, et al. Reconsideration is requested. The Feuchter, et al. smart card or other electronic release mechanism 36 is not adapted to be supplied with power via an inductive voltage coupling to the rotary ignition lock as claim 15 now requires and, in any event, is not a pushbutton with an actuating element as claim 15 particularly defines. Consequently, the Feuchter, et al. system does not include a pushbutton as required by claim 15 that is adapted to be supplied with power via an inductive voltage coupling to the rotary ignition lock as specified. Nothing noted by the Examiner suggests

modifying the Feuchter, et al. system so as to meet the limitations in claim 15 discussed, moreover, and claim 15 above is considered patentable. Claims 16 and 20, which depend on claim 15, are considered patentable as well. All claims in the application, therefore, are now patentable.

This application should now be in allowable condition. If there are any questions regarding this Reply or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an extension of time sufficient to effect a timely response. Please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #095309.56031US).

Respectfully submitted,

Date: March 10, 2008

/Richard R. Diefendorf, Reg.# 32390/
Richard R. Diefendorf
Registration No. 32,390

CROWELL & MORING LLP
Intellectual Property Group
P.O. Box 14300
Washington, DC 20044-4300
Telephone No.: (202) 624-2500
Facsimile No.: (202) 628-8844
RRD:rd